

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02

SS-15 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 CG-00 MC-02 AID-05 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WAHSDC 0958

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CNO

CINCLANT

COMMANDANT COAST GUARD

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SECDEF FOR DEPSECDEF CLEMENTS

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR,MASS,NO

SUBJ: NEW NORWEGIAN COAST GUARD TO RELY ON ORION P3 SUR-
VEILLANCE AIRCRAFT

REFS: 75 OSLO 2718(NOTAL), 75 OSLO A0194(NOTAL)

1. PROPOSAL FOR CREATION OF A NORWEGIAN COAST
GUARD CENTERED IN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WILL BE
DEBATED IN THE NORWEGIAN PARLIAMENT THIS SPRING. IT
IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
REPORT WILL BE ADOPTED.

2. EQUIPMENT RESOURCE NEEDS OF THE NEW COAST GUARD
WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL--10 SURVEILLANCE VESSELS, A
DIVING VESSEL,HELICOPTERS,SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT,ETC.
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WHILE NO FIRM DECISIONS ON EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION HAVE

BEEN TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO SURVEILLANCE VESSELS OR
HELICOPTERS,THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND OTHER AGENCIES
OF THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT CONCERNED WITH COAST GUARD
OPERATIONS ARE UNANIMOUS IN THEIR ENDORSEMENT OF THREE
ADDITIONAL P3-B ORION AIRCRAFT TO MEET AERIAL SURVEILLANCE
REQUIREMENTS. ALL SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT OPTIONS HAVE
BEEN EXPLORED INCLUDING P3-C(NOT VIABLE AND TOO
EXPENSIVE) AND UPDATED P3-A(INADEQUATE AND THEREFORE UNACCEPTABLE.

3. THEREFORE WHEN NORWEGIAN PARLIAMENT ACTS UPON THE
PROPOSAL FOR CREATION OF A COAST GUARD,IT IS CLEAR
THAT ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL THREE P3-B'S WILL
BE ACCORDED TOP PRIORITY BY MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.
EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IT IS VERY MUCH IN US INTERESTS
IN NORWAY TO BE AS RESPONSIVE AS POSSIBLE TO FORTHCOMING
NORWEGIAN REQUEST. OUR HANDLING OF P3-B SALE COULD
WELL ENHANCE PROSPECTS FOR NORWEGIAN COAST GUARD
PURCHASE OF OTHER TYPES OF EQUIPMENT FROM US.
BYRNE

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